

5.0 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

5.1 Introduction

This document has been prepared with input from interested agencies, organizations, and individuals. Public involvement is a vital component of the resource management planning process and environmental impact statement preparation for vesting the public in the effort and allowing for full environmental disclosure. Guidance for implementing public involvement is codified in 40 CFR 1506.6 and 43 CFR 1610, thereby ensuring that BLM makes a diligent effort to involve the public in the preparation of RMPs EISs. Public involvement for the CCMA RMP was primarily conducted in two phases, as follows:

- Public scoping prior to NEPA analysis to obtain public input on issues, the scope of the analysis, and to develop the proposed alternatives, and
- Public review and comment on the Draft RMP/EIS, which provides disclosure of potential environmental impacts and opportunity to revise the Proposed RMP and Final EIS based on substantive issues and concerns.

A summary of the earlier public scoping process is available in Chapter 5 of the CCMA Draft RMP/EIS (2009) and is not reproduced here. A summary of the results of public involvement during the CCMA Draft RMP/EIS review and comment period is presented below. This chapter also summarizes and responds to public comments submitted on the CCMA Draft RMP/EIS.

5.2 Outreach & Public Involvement

5.2.1 Notice of Availability of the CCMA Draft RMP/EIS

The public comment period for the CCMA Draft RMP/EIS opened with publication of the Notice of Availability for the Draft Resource Management Plan for the Clear Creek Management Area, California, and Draft Environmental Impact Statement in the *Federal Register* (Volume 74, Number 232) on December 4, 2009. The NOA states, “In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Draft Resource Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) for the Clear Creek Management Area (CCMA), and by this notice, announces the opening of the public comment period.”

5.2.2 Advertisements and Announcements

The NOA states, “To ensure that comments will be considered, the BLM must receive written comments on the Draft RMP/EIS within 90 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its Notice of Availability in the Federal Register. The BLM will announce future meetings or hearings and any other public involvement activities at least 15 days in advance through public notices, media news releases, and/or mailings.”

Accordingly, BLM issued a news release on December 17, 2009 announcing three public comment meetings for the CCMA Draft RMP/EIS, which were held in Coalinga, Hollister, and Santa Clara, California. The press release was sent to local and major central California news media and posted on BLM’s California and HFO websites and California Newsbytes. Articles were published announcing the meetings in newspapers in the region including the Hollister Freelance, Pinnacle, Monterey County Herald, Salinas Californian, Fresno Bee, and the San Jose Mercury News.

5.2.3 Project Website

A website, http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/hollister/clear_creek_management_area/CCMA_RMP.html, was established to provide public information on the CCMA RMP/EIS. It provides background information on the BLM's land use planning process, a downloadable version of the CCMA RMP/EIS Scoping Report, the CCMA Draft RMP/EIS, and links to BLM *Federal Register* notices and BLM news releases.

5.2.4 Public Meetings

5.2.4.1 Public Meetings

Three public meetings were held in January 2010 to promote public involvement in the BLM's CCMA RMP/EIS land use planning process. The purpose of these meetings was to provide information about the range of alternatives considered in the CCMA Draft RMP/EIS and their anticipated environmental effects, and to gather public comments on the BLM's preferred alternative, analysis of environmental impacts, and other feedback on the BLM's land use planning decisions for CCMA.

Each public meeting began with an open house, where the public was offered the opportunity to gather information, talk with BLM specialists, and provide written comments on the Draft RMP/EIS. Following the open house, the BLM provided a brief overview of the RMP alternatives and opened the verbal comment sessions. Public commenters were allowed approximately three minutes each to provide their comments to BLM decision-makers and the general audience regarding CCMA public lands and the information provided in the Draft RMP/EIS. Verbal comments were noted on a flipchart to capture public concerns and help identifying common themes.

Attendance during these three meetings was high with over 1000 members of the public, mainly off-highway vehicle users, discussing the future management of the CCMA at the public meetings held in Coalinga, Hollister, and Santa Clara. The public meetings were also attended by representatives from local, state, and federal government agencies, elected officials, numerous clubs and organizations, and other constituents. A total of approximately 1,000 people participated in these meetings according to the sign-in sheets gathered by the Hollister Field Office staff, although the number of people actually in attendance was much greater.

BLM hired facilitators from Tetra Tech, Inc. to help conduct the public comment meetings on the CCMA Draft RMP/EIS. Following these meetings, consultants from Tetra Tech, Inc. prepared a Summary Report. This report is included in Appendix XI and summarizes the results of the public meetings hosted by the BLM's Hollister Field Office and the lists the names of the public commenters that provided verbal comments during these public meetings.

A public meeting in Coalinga took place on January 13, 2010. Over 125 members of the public attended the meeting. There were a total of 18 public speakers, including individual citizens and representatives from the following organizations: Tule Gem and Mineral Society, Blue Ribbon Coalition, Junnila Mines, Coalinga Rockhound Society, Fresno Gem and Mineral Society, Lemoore Gem and Mineral Club, Avenal Chimes News, Three Rocks Research, AMA District 36, and California Association of Four-Wheel Drive Clubs.

Another public meeting in Hollister was held on January 14, 2010. Over 290 members of the public attended. The number of public speakers was 21, including individual citizens and representatives from the following organizations: Timekeepers Motorcycle Club, Friends of Clear Creek Management Area, Three Rocks Research, Salinas Ramblers Motorcycle Club, California Association of Four-Wheel Drive Clubs, Salinas Valley Rock and Gem Club, and Salinas Ramblers Motorcycle Club.

The third public meeting, held on January 20, 2010 at the Santa Clara Convention Center, was the meeting with the highest turnout with attendance by over 400 people. There were 26 public speakers, including citizens and representatives from the following organizations: BlueRibbon Coalition, American Land Access Association, California Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Carnegie Off-Road Enthusiasts, Salinas Ramblers Motorcycle Club, Timekeepers Motorcycle Club, Friends of Clear Creek Management Area, Bay Area Riders Forum, Los Altos Dirt Bike Riders, and California Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs.

5.2.4.2 Socioeconomic Workshop

A social and economic workshop was held on February 22, 2010 to discuss social and economic issues and concerns associated with the range of alternatives in the Draft CCMA RMP/EIS and to increase public involvement in the land use planning process. The purpose of the workshops was to assist in characterizing existing conditions and trends in local communities and the wider region that may affect and be affected by land use planning decisions.

The workshops also provide an opportunity for local government officials, community leaders, and other citizens to discuss regional economic conditions and trends with BLM managers and staff. The workshops assisted in identifying the ways public land resources are integrated into the local economy and way of life, and identifying opportunities for collaborative, stewardship-based management proposals. The workshops would also devote some time to introducing participants to economic concepts, the sources of economic data, the data itself, and the processes of economic analysis.

Participation at the socioeconomic workshops included local businesses, ranchers/landowners, clubs and organizations, elected public officials, Native Americans, and area residents. Information obtained at the workshop has been incorporated into the Social and Economic analysis for the CCMA Proposed RMP and Final EIS. A summary report of the information presented by BLM and the public comments gathered during the workshop is included in Appendix XI.

5.3 Public Comments on the CCMA Draft RMP/EIS

BLM's official public comment period began December 4, 2009, with the publication of the NOA in the Federal Register (Volume 74, Number 232). The comment period was extended to April 19, 2010 to allow further public input following requests from planning numerous participants and elected officials.

While comments are accepted throughout the CCMA land use planning process, BLM only accepted written comments during the public comment period to ensure that issues presented in the CCMA Proposed RMP and Final EIS reflect the genuine concerns of the public. A majority of the public comments were submitted by email; although BLM received many written letters that reflect the interest of numerous agencies and constituents, including those who attended the public comment meetings. The total number of comments received by the HFO, as follows:

Federal, State, and Local Government Agencies: 14

United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9	California State Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Ventura Field Office and Sacramento Office	Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District
United States Geologic Survey	County of San Benito Board of Supervisors (and Planning Department)

California State Department of Parks & Recreation, Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division	California State Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Commission
California Governor's Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse	California Native American Heritage Commission
California State Department of Water Resources	San Joaquin Valley Resource Conservation and Development Council
California State Department of Toxic Substances Control	Westside Resource Conservation District

Clubs & Organizations: 30

American Motorcycle Association, District 36	Lemoore Gems and Mineral Club
American Land Access Association	Los Altos Dirt Bike Riders
Bay Area Mineralogists	Los Gatos Motorcycle Club
BlueRibbon Coalition	Racers Under The Sun
California Association of Four-Wheel Drive Clubs	Ridge Runners Motorcycle Club
California Enduro Riders Association	Salinas Valley Rock and Gem Club
California Federation of Mineralogical Society	San Francisco Gem and Mineral Society
California Motor Dealers Association	Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society
California Off-Road Vehicle Association	Santa Cruz Gem and Mineral Society
Center for Biological Diversity	Salinas Ramblers Motorcycle Club
Coalinga Rockhound Society	Timekeepers Motorcycle Club
Friends of Clear Creek Management Area	Three Rocks Research
Fresno Gems and Mineral Society	Tule Gems and Mineral Club
Ghost Riders Motorcycle Club	Ventana Wilderness Alliance
Hernandez Valley Property Owners	Wisconsin Off-Highway Vehicle Association

Written Comments (Letters, Fax, Email, & Form Letters/Email): 5,614

Hand Delivered: 32	Form Letter 5 (Substantive Comments): 16
Individual Letters (inc. Fax): 122	Form Letter 6 (Minerals): 12
Individual Emails: 168	Form Email 1 (OHV-INC): 1,729
Form Letter 1 (BRC): 79	Form Email 2 (ENV-INC): 2, 885
Form Letter 2 (OHV): 28	Form Email 3 (OHV Commission): 325
Form Letter 3 (Comment Period Ext.): 25	Form Email 4 (Comment Period Ext.): 61
Form Letter 4 (Tucker INC): 132	

A complete listing of all the specific agencies, organizations, clubs, and individuals, plus a summary of their comments on the CCMA Draft RMP/EIS is included in Appendix X (PRMP/FEIS, Volume II). Appendix X also includes BLM's responses to the public comments, which describe how the issues were addressed in the CCMA Draft RMP/EIS and/or how they have been incorporated into the CCMA Proposed RMP and Final EIS.

5.4 Partnership and Collaboration Opportunities

A number of potential partnerships exist that could help BLM broaden involvement of interested parties in the future management of public lands. Agreements with local counties and communities will continue to be utilized and explored for activities and needs such as planning, transportation, emergency services, law enforcement, infrastructure, and tourism. BLM will seek to incorporate management actions in the CCMA RMP/EIS that would compliment adjacent communities.

The BLM Hollister Field Office has existing agreements with several Federal, State, and local agencies to assist in the management of public land resources in the planning area. These agencies include:

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- California Department of Toxic Substances Control
- California State Office of Historic Preservation
- California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (CALFIRE)
- California Department of Fish and Game
- California Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control Districts

The Tachi Yokut Tribe of the Santa Rosa Rancheria is the only federally recognized Native American group in the planning area. Representatives of the tribe are aware of BLM's CCMA RMP/EIS land use planning process. In general, they support BLM's conservation goals in the planning area provided that they are informed of any potential impacts to cultural resources or other traditionally used natural resources. Non-federally recognized California Indian tribes that were notified and/or consulted include members of several Ohlone/Costanoan tribal groups. Members of these tribes also utilize the planning area for cultural and Native American traditional uses. Consultation between BLM officials in the Hollister Field Office and tribal representatives were conducted for this EIS and many other activities or Proposed Actions within the planning area. The BLM will continue to provide an opportunity for the Tachi Yokut Tribe and Ohlone/Costanoan tribal members to provide input on future management of public lands.

5.5 List of Preparers

A number of individuals formed the Management Team, Core Team, and Interdisciplinary Team for development and/or review of the CCMA Proposed RMP and Final EIS. Other BLM staff acted on an ad-hoc basis to support development and review efforts.

Management Team

The management team was responsible for overall direction and completion of the RMP. This includes assuring availability of the Core and ID Team members for completion of the RMP; reviewing and approving progress in completing the CCMA Proposed RMP and Final EIS; fully participating in all public involvement and collaborative activities; and ensuring the integrity of the process and subsequent management direction is maintained.

Hollister Field Office Manager	Rick Cooper
Hollister Associate Field Manager	George Hill
State Office Representative(s)	Kathy Hardy and Sandra McGinnis

Project Manager and Core Team

The Project Manager is responsible to the Field Office Manager that comprises the BLM's administrative coverage for the analysis area. The Project manager is responsible for day-to-day guidance for development of the RMP, coordinating schedules of staff in all phases of the planning effort, working with Core Team Leads and public to facilitate public involvement, and ensuring the RMP and associated EIS are prepared within the technical and procedural quality standards provided by the BLM's planning policy and applicable laws and regulations.

The Core Team is responsible for coordinating with the Project Manager in preparation for all phases of the process and all sections of the analytical and guiding documents, assuring consistency throughout the RMP development, and fully participating in all public involvement and collaborative efforts. Project Manager and Core Team members include:

Project Manager	George Hill
GIS and Database Manager	Eric Wergeland & David Moore
Planning and Environmental Coordinator	Sky Murphy
Outdoor Recreation Planner	David Moore

Interdisciplinary Team

The Interdisciplinary Team is responsible for assisting the Core Team in preparing the necessary sections of the RMP including: preparing specific sections of the EIS/RMP; and coordinating data deliverables for GIS analysis and reviewing for technical adequacy. Interdisciplinary Team members include:

Recreation and Travel Management	David Moore
HAZMAT/Public Health & Safety	Timothy Moore & Sky Murphy
Vegetation	Ryan O'Dell
Fish and Wildlife	Michael Westphal
Special Status Species	Ryan O'Dell & Michael Westphal
Air Quality	Sky Murphy
Water Resources	Michael Westphal
Soils	Ryan O'Dell
Special Designations ACEC/RNA, WSA, WSR) & Visual Resources Management --	Sky Murphy
Livestock Grazing	Stacey Schmidt
Energy & Minerals	Timothy Moore
Cultural & Paleontological Resources	Erik Zaborsky
Fire Management	Mario Marquez
Social/Economic Conditions & Environmental Justice --	Sky Murphy
Lands and Realty	Christine Sloand

Cooperating Agency (EPA Region 9) Staff:

Jere Johnson
Arnold Denn
Daniel Stralka
Jeanne Geselbracht

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Acronyms

AEHHRA asbestos exposure and human health risk assessment
 ACEC area of critical environmental concern
 AML abandoned mine lands
 AMP allotment management plan
 AMR appropriate management response
 APCD air pollution control district
 APE area of potential effect
 ARPA *Archaeological Resources Protection Act*
 ATCM airborne toxic control measures
 ATSDR Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
 ATV all-terrain vehicle
 AUM animal unit month
 BLM Bureau of Land Management
 BMP best management practice
 CAA *Clean Air Act (as amended)*
 CABE (*Camissonia benitensis*) San Benito evening primrose
 CALFIRE California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
 CASHE Compliance Assessment Safety Health Environment
 CCMA Clear Creek Management Area
 CDC Center for Disease Control
 CDFG California Department of Fish and Game
 CDPR California Department of Parks and Recreation
 CERCLA *Comprehensive Environmental Response and Liability Act*
 CEQ Council on Environmental Quality
 CFR Code of Federal Regulations
 CNPS California Native Plant Society
 CWA *Clean Water Act*
 DOT Department of Transportation
 DTSC California Department of Toxic Substances Control
 EIS environmental impact statement
 ELCR excess lifetime cancer risk
 EPA Environmental Protection Agency
 ESA *Endangered Species Act*
 FAR functioning at risk
 FLPMA *Federal Land Policy and Management Act*
 FMP fire management plan
 FMU fire management unit
 GIS geographic information system
 HAZMAT hazardous materials
 HFO Hollister Field Office
 IMP *Interim Management Policy for Lands under Wilderness Review*
 IPM integrated pest management
 mph miles per hour
 IRIS Integrated Risk Information System
 NEPA *National Environmental Policy Act*
 NHPA *National Historic Preservation Act*

NIOSH National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
 NPL National Priorities List
 NOA naturally occurring asbestos
 NOI notice of intent
 NOx nitrogen oxides
 NRHP National Register of Historic Places
 NWSRS National Wild and Scenic Rivers System
 OEHHA Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
 OHV off-highway vehicle
 OHVTF Off-highway Vehicle Trust Fund
 ORV off-road vehicle (synonymous with OHV)
 OSHA Occupational Safety and Health Administration
 PA Programmatic Agreement
 PCM phase contrast microscopy
 PCME phase contrast microscopy equivalent
 PFC proper functioning condition
 PILT payments in lieu of taxes
 PM_{2.5} particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter
 PM₁₀ particulate matter less than 10 micrometers in diameter
 PPE personal protective equipment
 RAWS remote automated weather station
 RFD reasonably foreseeable development
 RMIS Recreation Management Information System
 RMO route management objective
 RMP resource management plan
 RNA research natural area
 ROD record of decision
 SARA *Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act*
 SHPO State Historic Preservation Officer
 SRMA special recreation management area
 SUV sport utility vehicle
 SVRA state vehicle recreation area
 T&E threatened and endangered
 TEM transmission electron microscopy
 TMDL total maximum daily load
 UCL upper confidence limit
 US United States
 USDI U.S. Department of the Interior
 USGS U.S. Geological Survey
 USFWS U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 UTV universal terrain vehicle
 VOC volatile organic compound
 VRM visual resources management
 WFU wildland fire use
 WHO World Health Organization
 WSA wilderness study area

Glossary

Acceptable Risk Range – The Environmental Protection Agency Superfund program defines the acceptable risk range for exposure to a carcinogen, like asbestos, as 10⁻⁴ (1 in 10,000) to 10⁻⁶ (1 in 1,000,000) excess lifetime cancer risk. Exposures which are calculated to cause more than 1 in 10,000 excess cancers are considered to be of concern and may require action to reduce the exposure and resulting risk.

Asbestos – The name given to a number of naturally occurring, fibrous silicate minerals mined for their useful properties such as thermal insulation, chemical and thermal stability, and high tensile strength (see also Naturally Occurring Asbestos).

Adaptive Management – An iterative process, designed to experimentally compare selected management actions by evaluating alternative hypotheses about the ecosystem being managed. Adaptive management consists of three parts: management actions, monitoring, and adaptation. Management actions are treated as experiments subject to modification. Monitoring is conducted to detect the effects of the management actions. Finally, management actions are refined in response to the enhanced understanding of how the ecosystem responds.

Aggregate – Any combination of sand, gravel, and crushed stone in its natural or processed state.

Allowable uses – analyzed under the range of alternatives for recreation in the Draft CCMA RMP/EIS are defined as follows:

- **Non-motorized** – Non-motorized recreation includes hiking, backpacking, bird and wildlife viewing, equestrian use, environmental education, sightseeing, picnicking and photography. Non-motorized recreation does not include activities listed as motorized or mechanized recreation.
- **Mechanized** – Mechanized recreation includes cycling, mountain biking, hang gliding, and rock climbing using assistive devices.
- **Motorized** – Motorized recreation includes the use of off-highway vehicles (OHVs), as described in the Transportation and Access section (2.16), and vehicle touring.
- **Shooting** – Shooting, for purposes of this document, includes all non-hunting discharge of firearms, but excludes use of paintball devices.

Alluvium – Unconsolidated rock or sediment deposited by flowing water including gravel, sand, silt, clay, and various mixtures thereof.

Alternative – One of at least two proposed means of meeting planning objectives.

Animal Unit – One mature (1,000-pound) cow or the equivalent, based on an average forage consumption of 26 pounds of dry matter per day. For authorization calculation purposes, an animal unit is one cow and her calf, one horse, or five sheep or goats. Depending on the composition and weight of animals in the herd, actual forage use may vary.

Animal Unit Month (AUM) – The amount of forage needed to sustain one cow, five sheep, or five goats for 1 month.

Annual Plant – A plant that completes its life cycle within a single growing season. Also see PERENNIAL PLANT.

Appropriate Management Response (AMR) – The response to a wildland fire based on an evaluation of risks to firefighters and public safety; the circumstances under which the fire occurs, including weather and fuel conditions; natural and cultural resource management objectives; protection priorities; and values to be protected. The evaluation must also include an analysis of the context of the specific fire within the overall local geographic area or national wildland fire situation.

Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (ARPA) – A federal law that prohibits the removal, disturbance, sale, receipt and interstate transportation of archaeological resources obtained illegally (without permits), from federal or Indian lands and authorizes agency permit procedures for investigations of archaeological resources on lands under the agency's control.

Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) – An area of BLM-administered land where special management attention is needed to do the following: to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural, or scenic values and to fish and wildlife or other natural systems or processes; or to protect life and provide safety from natural hazards.

Archaeological Site – Any place where human-made or modified artifacts, features, or ecofacts are found.

Arid region - A region where precipitation is insufficient to support any but drought-adapted vegetation.

Asbestos -- Asbestos is the name given to a group of six different fibrous minerals that occur naturally in the environment. These fibrous silicate minerals are mined for their useful properties such as thermal insulation, chemical and thermal stability, and high tensile strength. They do not dissolve in water or evaporate, and they are resistant to heat, fire, and chemical or biological degradation. The two general types of asbestos are amphibole and chrysotile (fibrous serpentine).

Artifact – A discrete or portable object manufactured or modified by humans. Some common artifact categories include lithic, ceramic, organic, and metal objects.

Authorized Officer – Any Bureau of Land Management employee who has been delegated the authority to perform defined duties.

Available Forage (or available forage species) – Forage that can be grazed and still allow sustained forage production on rangeland. Available forage may or may not be authorized for grazing.

Best Management Practice (BMP) – Practices based on current scientific information and technology that, when applied during the implementation of management actions, ensure that adverse impacts are minimized. BMPs are generally tailored to site-specific conditions, in order to represent the most effective and practical means to achieve management goals for a given site.

Biological Diversity (Biodiversity) – The full range of variability within and among living organisms and the ecological complexes in which they occur. Biological diversity encompasses ecosystem or community diversity, species diversity, and genetic diversity. In this document, *biodiversity* refers to species richness defined as a number of species in a given habitat or location across habitats.

Biological Opinion – A document that includes the following: the opinion of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service as to whether a federal action is likely to jeopardize the existence of a species listed as threatened or endangered, or destroy or adversely modify designated critical habitat, a summary of the information on which the opinion is based, and a detailed discussion of the effects of the action on listed species or designated critical habitat.

Biomass – The total amount of living plants and animals above and/or below ground in an area at a given time; plant material that can be burned as fuel.

Biota – The animal and plant life of a given region.

BLM Sensitive Species – Species designated by a state director, usually in cooperation with the state agency responsible for managing the species and state natural heritage programs, as sensitive. They are those species that: (1) could become endangered in or extirpated from a state. Or within a significant portion of or distribution; (2) are under status review by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or National Marine Fisheries Service; (3) are undergoing significant current or predicted downward trends in habitat capability that would reduce a species' existing distribution; (4) are undergoing significant current or predicted downward trends in population or density such that federal listed, proposed, candidate, or State listed status may become necessary; (5) typically have small and widely dispersed populations; (6) inhabit ecological refugia or other specialized or unique habitats; or (7) are State listed but which may be better conserved through application of BLM sensitive species status.

Browse – The part of leaf and twig growth of shrubs, woody vines, and trees available for animal consumption; the act of consuming browse.

California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) – The California state agency whose mission is to manage California's diverse fish, wildlife, and plant resources, and the habitats upon which they depend, for their ecological values and for their use and enjoyment by the public. CDFG maintains native fish, wildlife, plant species, and natural communities for their intrinsic and ecological value and their benefits to people. This includes habitat protection and maintenance in a sufficient amount and quality to ensure the survival of all species and natural communities. CDFG is also responsible for the diversified use of fish and wildlife, including recreational, commercial, scientific, and educational uses.

Canopy – The vertical projection downward of the aerial portion of shrubs and trees, usually expressed as a percent of the ground so occupied.

Catastrophic Wildfire – Fire that burns more intensely than the natural or historical range of variability, thereby causing unacceptable erosion, fundamentally changing the ecosystem, or destroying communities of rare or threatened species or habitat.

Chaparral – A vegetation community consisting of dense and often thorny shrubs and small trees.

Code of Federal Regulations – The official legal compilation of regulations directing Federal Government agencies.

Collaboration – A cooperative process in which interested parties, often with widely varied interests, work together to seek solutions with broad support for managing public and other lands. Collaboration may or may not involve an agency as a cooperating agency.

Communication Site – A hilltop or favorable signal receiving and transmitting location where a collection of facilities are located. A facility consisting of a small building and tower, used for transmitting or receiving radio, television, telephone, or other electronic signals.

Component (Cultural Resources) – An association of all the artifacts from one occupation level and one time period at a site.

Composition (Species Composition) – The proportions of plant species in relation to the total in a given area. Composition may be expressed as cover, density, and weight.

Containment – The status of a wildfire suppression action signifying that a control line has been completed around the fire and any associated spot fires, which can reasonably be expected to stop the fire's spread.

Connectivity – The degree to which habitats for a species are continuous or interrupted across a spatial extent, where habitats defined as continuous are within a prescribed distance over which a species can successfully conduct key activities, and habitats defined as interrupted are outside the prescribed distance.

Cooperating Agency – An agency that helps the lead federal agency develop the environmental analysis for a proposed major action. U.S. Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) define a cooperating agency as any agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise for proposals covered by NEPA. Any North American Indian tribe or federal, state, or local government jurisdiction with such qualifications may become a cooperating agency by agreement with the lead agency. Cooperating agency status is generally formalized through a memorandum of understanding between BLM and the cooperating agency.

Critical Habitat – (1) The specific areas within the geographical area currently occupied by a species, at the time it is listed in accord with the Endangered Species Act, on which are found physical or biological features (i) essential to the conservation of the species and (ii) that may require special management considerations or protection, and (2) specific areas outside the geographical area occupied by a species at the time it is listed upon determination by the Secretary of the Interior that such areas are essential for the conservation of the species.

Cultural Resource – Any definite location of past human activity that is identifiable through field survey, historical documentation, or oral evidence. This includes archaeological or architectural sites, structures, or places; and places of traditional cultural or religious importance to specified groups, whether or not represented by physical remains.

Cultural Site – A physical location of past human activities or events, more commonly referred to as an archaeological site or a historic site. Such sites vary greatly in size and range from the location of a single cultural resource object to a cluster of cultural resource structures with associated objects and features.

Cumulative Impacts – The effect on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative effects can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

Dispersed Recreation – Recreation activities that do not require developed sites or facilities.

Disposal Areas – Broad areas of public lands where BLM generally intends to dispose of existing public lands, either by land exchange or sale.

Easement – The right to use land in a certain way granted by a landowner to a second party.

Ecofact – Bones, vegetal matter, pollen, shells, modified soils, or other archaeological finds that though not human manufactured, give important clues as to human behavior or the environmental context of such behavior.

Ecological Processes – Processes that include the water cycle (the capture, storage, and redistribution of precipitation) energy flow (conversion of sunlight to plant and animal matter) and the nutrient cycle (the cycle of nutrients, such as nitrogen and phosphorus through the physical and biotic components of the environment). Ecological processes functioning within a normal range of variation at an ecological site will support specific plant and animal communities.

Ecosystem – A dynamic complex of plant, animal, fungal, and microorganism communities and their associated nonliving environment interacting as an ecological unit.

Effects – Effects and impacts in the regulations are synonymous. Effects includes ecological (such as the effects on natural resources and on the components, structures, and functioning of affected ecosystems), aesthetic, historic, cultural, economic, social, or health, whether direct, indirect, or cumulative. Effects may also include those resulting from actions that may have both beneficial and detrimental effects, even if on balance the agency believes that the effect will be beneficial. Effects include

- Direct effects, which are caused by the action and occur at the same time and place and
- Indirect effects, which are caused by the action and are later in time or farther removed in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable. Indirect effects may include growth-inducing effects and other effects related to induced changes in the pattern of land use, population density, or growth rate and are related effects on air and water and other natural systems, including ecosystems.

Endangered Species – Any species defined through the Endangered Species Act as being in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. Also see THREATENED SPECIES.

Entry – An application to acquire title to public lands.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) – A detailed written statement required by the National Environmental Policy Act for major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. An EIS addresses: (i) The environmental impact of the Proposed Action, (ii) Any adverse environmental effects which cannot be avoided should the proposal be implemented, (iii) Alternatives to the Proposed Action, (iv) The relationship between local short-term uses of man's environment and the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity, and (v) Any irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources which would be involved in the Proposed Action should it be implemented.

Environmental Justice – The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of race, color, national origin, or income in developing, implementing, and enforcing environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

Ephemeral Stream – A stream that flows only in direct response to precipitation, and whose channel is at all times above the water table.

Erosion – The wearing away of the land surface or soil by running water, waves, or moving ice and wind, or by such processes as mass wasting and corrosion (solution and other chemical processes). “Accelerated erosion” generally refers to erosion in excess of what is presumed or estimated to be naturally occurring levels, and which is a direct result of human activities.

Ethnographic - Related to the branch of cultural anthropology that deals with the scientific investigation of living cultures. The main ethnographic data collection technique is participant observation—living with the people being investigated with the intention of full immersion in their culture. Such research is called ethnography.

Exotic – All species of plants and animals not naturally occurring, either presently or historically, in any ecosystem of the United States.

Federal Land Policy And Management Act (FLPMA) – Public Law 94-579, the act that (1) established, for the BLM, standards for managing the public lands including land use planning, sales, withdrawals, acquisitions, and exchanges; (2) authorized the setting up of local advisory councils representing major citizens groups interested in land use planning and management, (3) established criteria for reviewing proposed wilderness areas, and (4) provided guidelines for other aspects of public land management such as grazing.

Federal Register – The Federal Government’s official daily publication for rules, proposed rules, and notices of federal agencies and organizations, as well as executive orders and other presidential documents.

Fireline (Control Line) – An inclusive term for all constructed or natural barriers, and treated fire edges used to control a fire. Also called a fire trail.

Fire Management Plan – A strategic plan that defines a program to manage wildland and prescribed fires and documents the fire management program in the approved land use plan. The fire management plan is supplemented by operational procedures such as preparedness plans, preplanned dispatch plans, prescribed fire plans, and prevention plans.

Fire Management Unit – A fire planning unit in which preparedness strategies are designed to meet watershed or resource management objectives, designated by logical fire control or containment criteria such as watershed basins, sub-basins, ridgetops, topographic features, roads, or vegetation changes.

Fire Regime – A combination of components that characterize fire in a potential natural vegetation group, including frequency, intensity, seasonality, and extent.

Fire Retardant – Any substance except plain water that by chemical or physical action reduces flammability of fuels or slows their rate of combustion.

Forage – All browse and herbage that is available and acceptable to grazing animals or that may be harvested for feed; the act of consuming forage.

Forb – Any broad-leaved herbaceous plant that is not a grass, sedge, or rush.

Fuel Load (in fire ecology) – The oven-dry weight of fuel per unit area, usually expressed in tons/acre.

Fuel Model – A standardized description of fuels available to a fire based on the amount, distribution, and continuity of vegetation and wood. This information is used for rating fire danger and predicting fire behavior.

Geographic Information System (GIS) – A computer application used to store, view, and analyze geographical information, especially maps.

Grazing Permit or Lease – A contractual agreement between BLM and another party that permits grazing of a specific number and class of livestock for a specified period on a defined rangeland. The permit allows grazing use of public land, subject to permit stipulations and annual adjustment based on current rangeland condition.

Ground Cover – Plants or plant parts, living or dead, on the surface of the ground.

Groundwater – Subsurface water that is in the zone of saturation. The top surface of the ground water is the water table. Groundwater is the source of water for wells, seepage, and springs.

Guzzler – A device for collecting and storing precipitation for use by wildlife or livestock. A guzzler consists of an impenetrable water collecting area, a storage facility, and a trough from which animals can drink.

Habitat – A specific set of physical conditions that surround a species, group of species, or a large community. Wildlife management considers the major constituents of habitat to be food, water, cover, and living space.

Herbaceous – Of, relating to, or having the characteristics of a vascular plant that does not develop woody tissue; nonwoody vegetation such as grasses and forbs.

Highway-licensed vehicle – As used in this document, a "highway-licensed vehicle" includes any motor vehicle subject to the provisions of subdivision (a) of Section 38010 of the California Vehicle Code. Synonym = street-legal vehicle.

Historic District – An area that generally includes within its boundaries a significant concentration of properties linked by architectural style, historical development, archaeologically associated sites or a past event.

Initial Attack – The actions taken by the first resources to arrive at a wildfire to protect lives and property, and prevent further extension of the fire.

Infiltration – The downward entry of water into the soil or other material.

Inholdings – Parcels of land owned or managed by someone other than BLM but surrounded in part or entirely by BLM-administered land.

Interim Management Policy for Lands under Wilderness Review (IMP) (BLM 1995) – BLM’s strategy for managing wilderness study areas following their recommendation for designation but before Congress designates them as wilderness or releases them to multiple use management.

Intermittent Stream – A stream or reach of a stream that does not flow year round and that flows only when it receives baseflow solely during wet periods or it receives groundwater discharge or protracted contributions from melting snow or other erratic surface and shallow subsurface sources. See EPHEMERAL STREAM.

Invasive Species – An alien species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.

Land Use Allocations – The identification in a land use plan of the activities and foreseeable development that are allowed, restricted, or excluded for all or part of the planning area, based on desired future conditions.

Land Use Plan – A set of decisions that establish management direction for land within an administrative area, as prescribed under the planning provisions of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act; an assimilation of land-use-plan-level decisions developed through the planning process outlined in 43 CFR 1600, regardless of the scale at which the decisions were developed. Also see RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN.

Leasable Minerals – Minerals whose extraction from federally managed land requires a lease and the payment of royalties. Leasable minerals include coal, oil and gas, oil shale and tar sands, potash, phosphate, sodium, and geothermal steam.

Lithic Scatter – Pertaining to or composed of stone flakes created by human flint knapping that are dispersed on the ground; a type of archaeological resource.

Litter – The uppermost layer of organic debris on the soil surface, essentially the freshly fallen or slightly decomposed vegetal material.

Locatable Minerals – Minerals subject to exploration, development, and disposal by staking mining claims as authorized by the Mining Law of 1872 (as amended). Locatable minerals include valuable deposits of gold, silver, and other uncommon minerals not subject to lease or sale.

Location – The act of taking or appropriating a parcel of mineral land, including the posting of notices, the recording thereof when required, and marking the boundaries so they can be readily traced.

Mineral Entry – The filing of a claim on public land to obtain the right to any minerals it may contain.

Mineral Estate – The ownership of the minerals at or beneath the land’s surface.

Mineral Materials – Materials such as common varieties of sand, stone, gravel, pumice, pumicite, and clay that are not obtainable under the mining or leasing laws but that can be acquired under the Mineral Materials Act of 1947, as amended.

Mining Claims – Portions of public lands claimed for possession of locatable mineral deposits by locating and recording under established rules and pursuant to the Mining Law of 1872.

Mining Law of 1872 (General Mining Law) – The federal act that, with its amendments, formed the framework for the mining of locatable minerals on the public lands. This law declared that “valuable” mineral deposits rather than simply “mineral deposits” were to be free and open to exploration and purchase, limited individual claims to 20 acres, required \$100 worth of assessment work yearly, and allowed milling or processing claims of 5 acres or less to be entered on nonmineral lands.

Multiple Use – The management of the public lands and their resources so that they are used in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the American people; making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions; the use of some land for less than all of the resources; a combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that takes into account the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and non-renewable resources, including, but not limited to, recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific and historical values; and harmonious and coordinated management of various resources without permanent impairment of the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment with consideration being given to the relative values of the resources and not necessarily to the combination of uses that will give the greatest economic return or the greatest unit output”.

National Ambient Air Quality Standards— The allowable concentrations of air pollutants in the ambient (public outdoor) air specified in 40 CFR 50. National ambient air quality standards are based on the air quality criteria and divided into primary standards (allowing an adequate margin of safety to protect the public health including the health of "sensitive" populations such as asthmatics, children, and the elderly) and secondary standards (allowing an adequate margin of safety to protect the public welfare). Welfare is defined as including effects on soils, water, crops, vegetation, human-made materials, animals, wildlife, weather, visibility, climate, and hazards to transportation, as well as effects on economic values and on personal comfort and well-being.

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) – The federal law, effective January 1, 1970, that established a national policy for the environment and requires federal agencies: (1) to become aware of the environmental ramifications of their Proposed Actions, (2) to fully disclose to the public proposed federal actions and provide a mechanism for public input to federal decision making, and (3) to prepare environmental impact statements for every major action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended – A federal statute that established a federal program to further the efforts of agencies and individuals in preserving the Nation's historic and cultural foundations. The National Historic Preservation Act: (1) authorized the National Register of Historic Places, (2) established the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and a National Trust Fund to administer grants for historic preservation, and (3) authorized the development of regulations to require federal agencies to consider the effects of federally assisted activities on properties included in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Also see NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES and SECTIONS 106 and 110 OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT.

National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) – The official list, established by the National Historic Preservation Act, of the Nation's cultural resources worthy of preservation. The National Register lists archaeological, historic, and architectural properties (i.e., districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects) nominated for their local, state, or national significance by state and federal agencies and approved by the National Register Staff. The National Park Service maintains the National Register. National Register eligible property is referred to as an historical, cultural, archaeological, or listed property. Also see NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT.

National Wild And Scenic Rivers System (NWSRS) – A system of nationally designated rivers and their immediate environments that have outstanding scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historical, cultural, and other similar values and are preserved in a free-flowing condition. The system consists of three types of streams: (1) recreation—rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad and that may have some development along their shorelines and may have undergone some impoundments or diversion in the past, (2) scenic—rivers or sections of rivers free of impoundments with shorelines or watersheds still largely undeveloped but accessible in places by roads, and (3) wild—rivers or sections of rivers free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trails with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted.

Native Species – A plant or animal species that naturally occurs in an area and was not introduced by humans.

Naturally Occurring Asbestos - Naturally occurring asbestos refers to asbestos minerals that are found in the rocks or soil in an area and released into the air by routine human activities or weathering processes. Asbestos minerals belong to either the serpentine mineral group or the amphibole mineral group. The most common type of asbestos found in California is chrysotile, a serpentine mineral.

Niche – The place of an organism in its biotic environment; the position or function of an organism in a community of plants or animals; a microhabitat.

Non-Impairment of Wilderness Values Criteria – A set of criteria regulating land use to protect the wilderness values and characteristics of an area until Congress determines whether to preserve it as a wilderness. The nonimpairment criteria are as follows.

- The use, facility, or activity must be temporary. (This means a temporary use that does not create surface disturbance or involve permanent placement of facilities may be allowed if such use can easily and immediately be terminated upon wilderness designation.)

- When the use, activity, or facility is terminated, the wilderness values must not have been degraded so far as to significantly constrain the area's suitability for preservation as wilderness.

The only permitted exceptions to the nonimpairment criteria are the following:

1. wildfire or search and rescue emergencies,
- reclamation to minimize impacts of violations and emergencies,
 - uses and facilities that are considered grandfathered or valid existing rights under the Interim Management Policy for Lands under Wilderness Review,
 - uses and facilities that clearly protect or enhance the land's wilderness values or are the least needed for public health and safety, and
 - reclamation of pre-Federal Land Policy and Management Act impacts.

Notice of Intent (NOI) - a notice that an environmental impact statement will be prepared and considered. The notice shall briefly: (a) Describe the Proposed Action and possible alternatives. (b) Describe the agency's proposed scoping process including whether, when, and where any scoping meeting will be held. (c) State the name and address of a person within the agency who can answer questions about the Proposed Action and the environmental impact statement.

Noxious Plant (Weed) – An unwanted plant specified by federal or state laws as being undesirable and requiring control. Noxious weed refers to any plant that, when established, is highly destructive, competitive, or difficult to control by cultural or chemical practices. Noxious weeds are usually non-natives and highly invasive.

Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) – Many different types of OHV are operated on federal lands. In general, this includes any motorized track or wheeled vehicle designed for cross-country travel over natural terrain. For the purposes of this report, an OHV is any motorized vehicle capable of, or designed for, cross-country travel immediately on or over land, not including personal watercraft, snowmobiles, or aircraft. OHVs used on federal lands include off-highway motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, utility terrain vehicles, dune buggies, swamp buggies, jeeps, and rock crawlers. These vehicles may be used for various purposes, ranging from trail and open-area riding to hunting and accessing mining claims, hobby gem and mineral collection, or in-holdings (private or state-owned lands inside the boundaries of federal lands). OHVs exclude (1) any non-amphibious registered motorboat; (2) any fire, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle while being used for official or emergency purposes; and (3) any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized by a permit, lease, license, agreement, or contract issued by an authorized officer or otherwise approved.

Paleontological Resources – The remains of plants and animals preserved in soils and sedimentary rock. Paleontological resources are important for understanding past environments, environmental change, and the evolution of life.

Particulate Matter – Fine liquid (other than water) or solid particles suspended in the air, consisting of dust, smoke, fumes, and compounds containing sulfur, nitrogen, and metals.

Pasture – A subunit of a grazing allotment established and managed generally by building fences or, less commonly, by actively herding livestock.

Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) – Federal payments to local governments to offset their inability to collect taxes for federally owned land.

Perennial Plant – A plant species with a life-cycle that characteristically lasts more than two growing seasons and persists for several years. Also see ANNUAL PLANT.

Planning Criteria – The constraints or ground rules that guide the developing of a resource management plan. The criteria determine how the planning team develops alternatives and ultimately selects a Preferred Alternative.

Plio-Pleistocene – An epoch in Earth history from about 2-5 million years to 10,000 years ago, when the Earth experienced a series of glacial and interglacial periods.

Population – A group of interbreeding individuals of the same species often occupying the same geographical area

Preferred Alternative – The alternative in this EIS that BLM has initially selected because it best fulfills BLM’s mission and responsibilities and offers the most acceptable resolution of the planning issues and management concerns.

Prescribed Fire (Burning) – The planned application of fire to rangeland vegetation and fuels under specified conditions of fuels, weather, and other variables to allow the fire to remain in a predetermined area to achieve such site-specific objectives as controlling certain plant species; enhancing growth, reproduction, or vigor of plant species; managing fuel loads; and managing vegetation community types.

Prey Base – Populations and types of prey species available to predators, for example fish species and populations available to river otters.

Primitive Recreation – Recreation that occurs in a natural-appearing environment and that allows visitors to achieve solitude and isolation from human civilization. Primitive recreation may include hunting, horseback riding, wildlife viewing, nature study, photography, hiking, and backpacking.

Public Lands – Any land administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the U.S. Bureau of Land Management or by the Secretary of Agriculture through the U.S. Forest Service.

Rangeland – A type of land on which the native vegetation, climax, or natural potential consists predominately of grasses, grasslike plants, forbs, or shrubs. Rangeland includes lands revegetated naturally or artificially to provide a plant cover that is managed like native vegetation. Rangelands may consist of natural grasslands, savannas, shrublands, moist deserts, tundra, alpine communities, coastal marshes, and wet meadows.

Rangeland Health – The degree to which the integrity of the soil, vegetation, water, and air, as well as the ecological processes of the rangeland (land) ecosystem, are balanced and sustained. Integrity is defined as maintenance of the structure and functional attributes characteristic of a locale, including normal variability.

Rangeland Health Assessment – An estimate or judgment of the status of ecosystem structures, functions, or processes, within a specified geographic area (preferably a watershed or a group of contiguous watersheds) at a specific time. Rangeland health is assessed by gathering, synthesizing, and interpreting information, from observations or data from inventories and monitoring. An assessment characterizes the status of resource conditions so that the status can be evaluated relative to land health standards. An assessment sets the stage for an evaluation. An assessment is not a decision.

Raptors – Birds of prey, such as eagles, owls, and hawks.

Record of Decision – A document signed by a responsible official recording a decision that was preceded by the preparing of an environmental impact statement.

Recreation Management Zone – In recreation management, an area with four defining characteristics: (1) it serves a different recreation niche within the primary recreation market, (2) it produces a different set of recreation opportunities and facilitates attaining different experiences and benefit outcomes, (3) it has a distinctive recreation setting character, and (4) it requires a different set of recreation provider actions to meet primary recreation market demand.

Resource Advisory Council (RAC) – Advisory councils appointed by the Secretary of the Interior and consisting of representatives of major public land interest groups (e.g. commodity industries and recreation, environmental, and local area interests) in a state or smaller area. RACs advise BLM, focusing on a full array of multiple use public land issues. RACs also help develop fundamentals for rangeland health and guidelines for livestock grazing.

Resource Management Plan (RMP) – A land use plan as described by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act. The RMP generally establishes in a written document: (1) land areas for limited, restricted or exclusive use; designations, including ACEC designations; and transfer from BLM administration; (2) allowable resource uses (either singly or in combination) and related levels of production or use to be maintained; (3) resource condition goals and objectives to be attained; (4) program constraints and general management practices needed to achieve the above items; (5) need for an area to be covered by more detailed and specific plans; (6) support actions, including such measures as resource protection, access development, realty action, and cadastral survey., as needed to achieve the above; (7) general implementation sequences, where carrying out a planned action depends on prior

accomplishment of another planned action; and (8) intervals and standards for monitoring and evaluating the plan to determine its effectiveness and the need for amendment or revision. It is not a final implementation decision on actions that require further specific plans, process steps, or decisions under specific provisions of law and regulations.

Restoration – The act of restoring healthy but lacking key attributes and at-risk states of vegetation alliances, vegetation associations, and ecological sites to a healthy state with its original community structure, natural complement of species, and natural functions.

Right-of-Way (ROW) – A permit or an easement that authorizes the use of public lands for specified purposes, such as pipelines, roads, telephone lines, electric lines, communication sites, reservoirs, and the lands covered by such an easement or permit.

Riparian – Area, zone, and/or habitat adjacent to streams, lakes, or other natural free water, which have a predominant influence on associated vegetation or biotic community; pertaining to or situated on or along the bank of a stream or other water body.

Riparian Area/Riparian Zone – Terrestrial areas where the vegetation complex and microclimate conditions are products of the combined presence and influence of perennial or intermittent water, high water tables, and soils that exhibit some wetness characteristics. These terms are normally used to refer to the zone within which plants grow rooted in the water table of these rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, reservoirs, springs, marshes, seeps, bogs, and wet meadows.

Riparian Species – Plant species occurring within the riparian zone. Obligate species require the environmental conditions within the riparian zone; facultative species tolerate the environmental conditions and therefore may also occur away from the riparian zone.

Riparian Vegetation – Plant communities in the riparian zone consisting of riparian species.

Runoff – The portion of precipitation or irrigation on an area that does not infiltrate (enter the soil) but is discharged by the area.

Saleable Minerals – High volume, low-value mineral resources, including common varieties of rock, clay, decorative stone, sand, and gravel.

San Andreas Fault – The geologic transform fault that runs a length of roughly 800 miles through California.

Scoping – An early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed in an environmental impact statement and the significant issues related to a Proposed Action.

Season of use (livestock grazing) – The primary season of the year (winter, spring, summer, or fall) that livestock grazing occurs within a given area or allotment.

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act – The section of the National Historic Preservation Act that requires that federal agencies having direct or indirect jurisdiction over a proposed federal, federally assisted, or federally licensed undertaking, before approving the spending of funds or issuing a license, consider the effect of the undertaking on any district, site, building, structure, or object included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, and give the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation a reasonable opportunity to comment on the undertaking. Also see NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT and NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, and SECTION 110 OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT.

Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act – The section of the National Historic Preservation Act that concerns the managing of federally owned historic properties. Among other provisions, Section 110 requires each federal agency to establish a program to locate, inventory, protect, restore and nominate to the Secretary of the Interior Standards all properties under its control that appear to qualify for the National Register of Historic Places. Also see NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT, NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, and SECTION 106 OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT.

Sedimentation – The act or process of depositing sediment from suspension in water; all the processes by which particles of rock material are accumulated to form sedimentary deposits.

Sediment Load – The amount of sediment, measured in dry weight or by volume, that is transported through a stream cross-section in a given time. Sediment load consists of sediment suspended in water and sediment that moves by sliding, rolling, or bounding on or near the streambed.

Seeding – The planting of seeds to revegetate the land after a disturbance; an area that has been revegetated by seeding.

Seral Stages – The development stages of ecological succession.

Soil Compaction – Compression of the soil, resulting in reduced soil pore space (the spaces between soil particles), decreased movement of water and air into and within the soil, decreased soil water storage, and increased surface runoff and erosion.

Soil Fertility – The ability of a soil to support plant growth by providing water, nutrients, and a growth medium.

Soil Profile – A vertical section of the soil from the surface through all of its horizons.

Species – From Section 3(15) of the Federal Endangered Species Act: “The term ‘species’ includes any subspecies of fish or wildlife or plants, and any distinct population segment of any species of vertebrate fish or wildlife which interbreeds when mature.” A population of individuals that are more or less alike and that can breed and produce fertile offspring under natural conditions.

Species Composition – The proportions of plant species in relation to the total on a given area. It may be expressed in terms of cover, density, or weight.

Stabilization (Cultural Resource) – Protective techniques usually applied to structures and ruins to keep them in their existing condition, prevent further deterioration, and provide structural safety without significant rebuilding. Capping mud-mortared masonry walls with concrete mortar is an example of a stabilization technique.

Standards for Rangeland Health – A description of conditions needed to sustain public land health; relates to all uses of the public land. These standards address soils, streams, water quality, riparian-wetlands, and biodiversity.

State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) – The state official authorized to act as a liaison to the Secretary of the Interior for implementing the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Substrate – Mineral and organic material forming the bottom of a waterway or water body; the base or substance upon which an organism is growing. Used in: Pads and roads, especially if they do not have a lot of use, would also provide bare substrate, possibly suitable as nesting habitat for ground-nesting solitary bees (pollinators of native plants).

Succession – The progressive replacement of plant communities on an ecological site that leads to the climax community. Early seral stages are normally dominated by perennial grasses and annual as well as perennial forbs with few shrubs. During mid seral the woody species that the site supports such as shrubs and trees begin to make an obvious appearance, and annual forbs are dominated by perennial forbs. During late seral the shrubs normally dominate the cover on the site, but the perennial grasses still provide the most annual production on into the potential natural community.

Taylor Grazing Act – An act passed in 1934 that provides for the regulation of grazing on the public lands (excluding Alaska) to improve rangeland conditions and stabilize the western livestock industry.

Threatened Species – Any species defined through the Endangered Species Act (ESA) as likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range. Also see ENDANGERED SPECIES.

Traditional Cultural Property – A property that is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places because of its association with a living community’s cultural practices or beliefs that are important in maintaining the continuing community’s cultural identity.

Trailhead – The terminus of a (motorized or non-motorized) trail accessible by motor vehicle from public roadways.

Trespass – Any occupancy, use, or development of the public lands or their resources of the United States without authority.

Understory – Plants growing under the canopy of other plants. Understory usually refers to grasses, forbs, and low shrubs under a tree or brush canopy.

Upland Game – A term used in wildlife management to refer to hunted animals that are neither big game nor waterfowl. Upland game includes such birds as grouse, turkey, pheasant, quail, and dove, and such mammals as rabbit and squirrel.

Uplands – Lands at higher elevations than alluvial plains or low stream terraces; all lands outside the riparian wetland and aquatic zones.

Utility Corridor – A parcel of land, without fixed limits or boundaries, which is being used as the location for one or more utility rights-of-way.

Valid Existing Rights (mining) – Locatable mineral development rights that existed when the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) was enacted on October 21, 1976. Some areas are segregated from entry and location under the Mining Law to protect certain values or allow certain uses. Mining claims that existed as of the effective date of the segregation may still be valid if they can meet the test of discovery of a valuable mineral required under the Mining Law. Determining the validity of mining claims located in segregated lands requires BLM to conduct a validity examination and is called a “valid existing rights” determination.

Vascular Plants – Any of various plants, such as the ferns and seed-bearing plants, in which the phloem transports sugar and the xylem transports water and salts.

Vernal Pools – perched wetlands which are seasonally to semi-permanently flooded depressions typically occurring on sites with poor drainage.

Viable Population – A wildlife or plant population that contains an adequate number of reproductive individuals to appropriately ensure the long-term existence of the species.

Viewshed – The entire area visible from a viewpoint.

Vigor – The capacity for natural growth and survival of plants and animals.

Visual Resource Management (VRM) – The inventory and planning actions to identify visual values and establish objectives for managing those values and the management actions to achieve visual management objectives.

Visual Resource Management (VRM) Classes – Categories assigned to public by scenic quality, sensitivity level, and distance zones. Each class has an objective that prescribes the amount of modification allowed in the landscape.

Water Right – A right to use, in accord with its priority, a certain portion of the waters of the state for irrigation, power, domestic use or another similar use.

Watershed – An area of land from which water drains toward a single stream. The watershed is a hydrologic unit often used as a physical-biological unit and a socioeconomic-political unit for planning and managing natural resources.

Wetlands – Areas characterized by soils that are usually saturated or ponded; i.e., hydric soils, and that support mostly water-loving plants; i.e. hydrophytic plants. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas.

Wilderness – An area of undeveloped federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvement or human habitation, that is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and that (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man’s work substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least 5,000 acres of land or is of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.

Wilderness Study Area (WSA) – A roadless area that has been inventoried and found to be wilderness in character, has few human developments, and provides outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation, as described in Section 603 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Wilderness Values – Values established in the Wilderness Act, such as solitude and naturalness.

Wildland Fire – Any non-structure fire that occurs in the wild. Three distinct types of wildland fire have been defined and include wildfire, wildland fire use, and prescribed fire.

Wildland Fire Use – The application of the appropriate management response to naturally ignited wildland fires to meet specific resource management objectives in predefined designated areas outlined in fire management plans.

Withdrawal – An action that restricts the use of public lands by removing them from the operation of some or all of the public land or mining laws.

Woodland – A forest community occupied mainly by noncommercial species.

Xeric - Characterized by, or adapted to an extremely dry habitat.